

27th December 1969. League Match v. Oxford City (home)

By MIKE WHITESMAN: Wycombe Wanderers 6, Oxford City 1 OXFORD CITY suffered the wrath of Wanderers' power plus football for the second time in two days, as Wycombe sewed up both points by half-time at Loakes Park on Saturday.

Totally dominant and 4-1 up after 45 minutes, the Buckinghamshire title aspirants added two more goals in a tamer second period.

So, with their attack on the rampage, Wanderers' recent analysis now reads: Three competitive games, 19 goals. And signs are there's plenty more on the way.

The open secret of Wycombe's joyride is the depth of their scoring machine.

Available to lay on a headache for any amateur defence are at least six potential strikers—eight at a liberal reckoning.

Every member of the forward line is seeking out the half-chance, while most, or all, mid-field men are taking time off to try their luck in the front line.

And it all means goals.

Goals for instance, like the pair thrust home by Johnny Hutchinson, making his first Isthmian League appearance for Wycombe in front of the Loakes Park crowd.

Hutchinson had shown what he can do when visiting Wycombe as substitute for Wealdstone earlier this season. Then he came on late in the game and egged on the 'Stones' to pull back a point after trailing by two goals.

He looked just as good for Wanderers in their recent friendly with Bishop's Stortford.

But on Saturday Johnny confirmed that, alongside former team mate Keith Searle, he is the kind of asset Wycombe will welcome if they are to keep pressing Enfield for the championship.

Hutchinson's first goal, coming soon after John Delaney had carelessly fired a penalty kick wide, established Wanderers' supremacy.

In the 17th minute he put the ball home from close range, after goalkeeper Hawkins had diverted a Searle shot and flung himself backward to barge down Tony Horseman's follow-up attempt.

Hawkins mixed some glorious goalkeeping with some equally fiendish errors of judgement, but could only be half-blamed when Hutchinson made it 2-0 four minutes later.

A wretched backpass by Ramsden in Oxford's crowded area meant an open invitation for 'Hutch' to punish the mistake, while Hawkins was slow to react to the danger.

But in that same 66th minute, Wycombe went 5-1 ahead, with a cliff hanger of a goal when Horseman stretched to lob the ball over Hawkins' head as defenders raced back to clear their line.

Anthony, just as menacing on the right wing as he has been on the left, chested the ball down and banged in a first time shot for the sixth three minutes later.

So Oxford's misery 'double' was complete. The team which managed the somewhat dubious distinction of allowing Bromley to break a spell of more than 20 consecutive defeats, were not the match they usually are for the holiday 'derbies' with Wanderers.

Indeed their troubles would seem to go further than just one helping too many of Christmas Pudding.

Nonetheless, the credit is Wycombe's; for their jealous hogging of the spotlight; for their refusal to let Oxford back in the match; and for their splendid teamwork.

Wycombe Wanderers: J. Maskell; I. Rundle, C. Gale; P. Suddaby, J. Delaney, J. Lalley; G. Anthony, B. Baker, K. Searle, A. Horseman, J. Hutchinson. Sub.: K. Blunt (not used).

Oxford City: G. Hawkins; A. Mitchell, R. Keay; M. Ramsden, J. Shufflebotham, A. Pentecost; S. Moreton, A. Brown, K. Oram, Stokes, J. Woodley. Sub.: B. Booker (not used).

Attendance: 2,724. Receipts: £318 16s. 6d.

A neat through ball from Horseman gave Searle a chance to shoot over the diving 'keeper for number three in the 43rd minute, and two minutes later, Tony muscled in on the act in his own right to put Wanderers four clear.

He stuck his foot out effortlessly to meet an inside cross off the left wing and re-directed the ball into goal.

Out of the blue, City, who had managed only three convincing shots all half, cut the deficit. Just into injury time, a corner at Wanderers' end threw a pack of players into confusion. The ball deflected to the unmarked Woodley, who caught John Maskell outpositioned.

After the interval, as at Oxford, Wanderers slackened off a little at first, but soon rebuilt their attack.

First Hutchinson, and then Geoff Anthony, after slipping round two tackles, shot across the goalface; Shufflebotham seemed lucky not to be penalised soon after for a tackle in the City 'box' as Hutchinson moved onto Anthony's inside cross.

Wycombe stay in command

Wycombe 6 Oxford City 1

DESPITE AN early penalty miss by skipper John Delaney Wycombe carried on to overwhelm Oxford City.

Johnny Hutchinson, newly signed from Wealdstone to join his former colleague, Keith Searle, snapped up two quick goals inside 20 minutes and just before half-time Searle and Horseman took Wycombe's tally to four.

Seconds before half-time Oxford surprisingly replied with a goal from Woodley who stuck out a despairing foot to deflect a long shot from Keay past keeper Maskell.

After the interval Oxford had no answer to the controlled play of internationals Delaney, Suddaby and Lalley and Horseman whipped in a through ball from Gale. Then Anthony controlled the ball well to make his own goal chance and complete the scoring.